

Message Text

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DEPT PLEASE PASS EPA FOR WARD

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: CCMS, NATO
SUBJECT: CCMS: JULY 3-4 AD HOC MEETING TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE
NEW PILOT STUDIES

REF: USNATO 5289

1. THERE FOLLOWS IN PARA 4 TEXT OF AC/274-N/78, NOTE BY
CCMS PROJECTS OFFICER OUTLINING POSSIBLE NEW PILOT STUDIES
OR ROUNDTABLE TOPICS. THE IDEAS PRESENTED IN THIS DOCUMENT
CAN BE DISCUSSED IN GREATER DETAIL AT JULY AD HOC MEETING,
IF NATIONAL COORDINATORS ARE INTERESTED.

2. IN OUR VIEW, A NUMBER OF THE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY
THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF ARE ALREADY BEING ADEQUATELY AD-
DRESSED BY OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (E.G.OECD AND
EC ARE STUDYING PROTECTION AGAINST COMPUTER MISUSE(ITEM 4
OF ANNEX TO N/78); OECD IS INVESTIGATING THE IMPACT OF
TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS ON UNEMPLOYMENT (ITEM 5). WITH
REGARD TO ITEM 6 ON THE USE OF MATERIALS, THE SCIENCE
COMMITTEE HAS ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL PANEL ON MARTERIALS
SCIENCE. THERE MAY BE ROOM FOR CCMS/SCIENCE COMMITTEE
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COLLABORATION IN THIS FIELD.

3. IF UNITED STATES IS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THE IDEAS PRE-
SENTED IN N/78 AND WISHES INTERNATIONAL STAFF TO ELABORATE
ON THEM AT THE JULY MEETING, WE RECOMMEND THAT WE BE IN-
STRUCTED TO NOTIFY CCMS PROJECTS OFFICER IN ADVANCE OF THE
MEETING.

4. BEGIN TEXT: NOTE BY THE CCMS PROJECTS OFFICER

AT THE AD HOC MEETING OF NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES, HELD AT
NATO HEADQUARTERS ON 25-26 JANUARY, 1978, THERE WAS DIS-
TRIBUTED INFORMALLY A LIST OF IDEAS FOR POSSIBLE PILOT
STUDIES OR CCMS ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS PREPARED BY OFFICERS
IN THE SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS DIVISION. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT
NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES MIGHT HAVE THESE CONSIDERED IN
CAPITALS.

2. ATTACHED AT ANNEX IS A LISTING OF THE IDEAS SUGGESTED
WITH COMMENT. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF NATIONAL REPRE-
SENTATIVES AT THE 3-4 JULY, 1978, AD HOC MEETING ARE PRE-
PARED TO INDICATE ANY NATIONAL INTEREST IN THESE SUGGESTIONS
OFFICERS OF THE DIVISION WOULD BE PREPARED TO EXPAND ON
THESE IDEAS IF NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESS INTEREST
IN THEM.

ANNEX: IDEAS FOR POSSIBLE CCMS PILOT STUDIES OR ROUNDTABLE
DISCUSSIONS

1. STANDARDIZATION OF MEDICAL RECORDS

THIS STUDY WOULD INVESTIGATE WAYS TO STANDARDIZE MEDICAL
RECORDS SO THAT A PERSON'S MEDICAL RECORDS CAN BE READ
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QUICKLY AND WITHOUT ERROR AND NO TIME LOST IN TREATING
HIM OR HER. THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO PEOPLE WITH
HEART CONDITIONS, FOR EXAMPLE. THE STUDY WOULD LOOK AT
WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE WITH RESPECT TO STANDARDIZATION
OF MEDICAL RECORDS AND SUGGEST HOW STANDARDIZATION MAY BE
IMPROVED.

2. EDUCATION ON ENERGY PROBLEMS

THE GENERAL PUBLIC DOES NOT APPEAR TO BELIEVE THAT A SEVERE
ENERGY SHORTAGE IS DEVELOPING. MOREOVER, THE GENERAL PUBLIC
DOES NOT SEEM TO KNOW HOW TO CONSERVE ENERGY. THE STUDY
WOULD INVESTIGATE EFFECTIVE MEANS OF EDUCATING THE GENERAL
PUBLIC ON ENERGY ISSUES AND OPTIONS AND MEANS OF CONSERVING
ENERGY.

3. AGRICULTURE WITHOUT ARTIFICIAL FERTILIZERS

IT IS CLAIMED THAT IT IS ECONOMICAL FOR FARMERS TO PRODUCE
CROPS WITHOUT THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL FERTILIZERS, WHICH ARE
EXPENSIVE IN TERMS OF MONEY AND ENERGY. MOREOVER, IT APPEARS
THAT CONSIDERABLE ECOLOGICAL DAMAGE MAY BE CAUSED BY CON-

TINUED USE OF SUCH FERTILIZERS. THIS STUDY WOULD ATTEMPT TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THIS CLAIM IS SOUND AND, IF IT IS, WHAT EFFECT AGRICULTURE WITHOUT THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL FERTILIZERS WOULD HAVE ON PRODUCTION.

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4. PROTECTION AGAINST MISUSE OF COMPUTERS

THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS WITH THEIR ABILITY TO STORE VAST AMOUNTS OF DATA ON INDIVIDUALS MAKES THEM HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO MISUSE FOR UNACCEPTABLE

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PURPOSES, INCLUDING VIOLATION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY. THE STUDY WOULD INVESTIGATE MEANS OF PREVENTING SUCH MISUSE AND SUGGEST WHAT ACTION GOVERNMENTS MIGHT TAKE.

5. TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS AND ITS IMPACT ON UNEMPLOYMENT

THE SUGGESTION HERE IS THAT THERE BE HELD A CCMS CONFERENCE OR ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT IN ORDER TO TAKE A VERY CLOSE LOOK AT THE INTERACTION BETWEEN TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS AND UNEMPLOYMENT AND TO ASSESS WHETHER TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS HAS A POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE EFFECT ON EMPLOYMENT.

6. POLICY IN THE USE OF MATERIALS

GOVERNMENT POLICIES THAT AFFECT THE USE OF MATERIALS, BOTH RENEWABLE AND NON-RENEWABLE, HAVE A GREAT IMPACT ON THE PRICE AND AVAILABILITY OF SUCH MATERIALS. SOME OF THESE MATERIALS ARE RUNNING OUT. THE STUDY WOULD SURVEY GOVERN-

MENT POLICIES WHICH AFFECT THE USE OF SUCH MATERIALS AND SUGGEST WAYS THOSE POLICIES MIGHT BE MODIFIED TO REDUCE THE USE OF MATERIALS AND, POSSIBLY, FACILITATE THEIR RECYCLING.

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7. AIRSHIPS FOR MASS TRANSPORT

THE USE OF DIRIGIBLES AS A MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION WAS ABANDONED IN THE 1930S AFTER SEVERAL CATASTROPHES. IT IS HELD THAT DIRIGIBLES TODAY MAY OFFER AN ECONOMIC MEANS OF MASS TRANSPORTATION AND THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS. THIS STUDY WOULD INVESTIGATE WHETHER AIRSHIPS IN FACT OFFER A FEASIBLE MEANS OF ECONOMIC AND LOW-ENERGY TRANSPORTATION.

8. MIGRATION TO MAJOR URBAN CENTRES

UNLESS THE MASSIVE MIGRATION TO MAJOR URBAN CENTRES BY ECONOMICALLY AND CULTURALLY UNDERPRIVILEGED PEOPLE IS STEMMED, EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE CANNOT MEET THE DEMANDS MADE UPON IT. CONTINUED URBAN MIGRATION IS TOO LARGE TO BE SOLVED BY MOBILIZATION OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES. THE STUDY WOULD INVESTIGATE ACCEPTABLE MEANS OF REDUCING THE MIGRATION TO URBAN CENTRES AND SUGGEST POLICIES IN THIS REGARD.

9. INSTITUTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL MEASURES REQUIRED TO INFORM BETTER THE POPULATION AND MAKE IT RESPONSIVE TO LONG-TERM PROBLEMS FACING MANKIND

MAN HAS A TENDENCY TO LIMIT HIS VISION TO THE SATISFACTION OF IMMEDIATE NEEDS LARGELY AT THE EXPENSE OF FUTURE INTERESTS. THERE IS A NEED TO INCREASE HIS SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS IN THE POLITICAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESS AT BOTH THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS. THIS STUDY WOULD INVESTIGATE ACCEPTABLE MEASURES TO HELP GENERATE RESPONSIBLE PUBLIC ATTITUDES TO SUPPORT POLICIES THAT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PROJECTED FUTURE, AS WELL AS PRESENT, NEEDS.

10. PROBLEMS OF ELDERLY PEOPLE

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INCREASING LIFE EXPECTANCIES ARE CHANING THE DEMOGRAPHY OF THE NATO COUNTRIES SO THAT THE ELDERLY WILL CONSTITUTE A GREATER PART OF THE POPULATION. THIS STUDY WOULD INVESTIGATE WHAT MEASURES CAN USEULLY BE TAKEN TO KEEP ELDERLY PEOPLE

AS A RESPECTED, NON-ISOLATED AND CONTRIBUTING PART OF THE COMMUNITY.

11. DRUGS

THE MULTITUDE OF DRUGS AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC WITH OR WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION MAKES THEM HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO MISUSE AND MISREPRESENTATION AND CAN HARM CONSUMERS BOTH PHYSICALLY AND FINANCIALLY. THIS STUDY WOULD LOOK AT EXISTING REGULATORY MEASURES TO CONTROL THE LICENSING AND MARKETING OF DRUGS AND HOW THE MARKETING OF DRUGS WHICH ARE INEFFECTIVE OR HAVE HIDDEN SIDE EFFECTS MIGHT BE CONTROLLED OR BANNED TO PROTECT THE CONSUMER.

12. USE OF PESTICIDES IN AGRICULTURE AND THEIR EFFECT ON THE ECOLOGICAL BALANCE. THIS STUDY WOULD LOOK AT MEASURES TO MONITOR AND CONTROL THEIR UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS.

13. REMOTE SENSING TECHNOLOGY

MOST EXISTING REMOTE SENSING SYSTEMS ARE IN THE EXPERIMENTAL MODE AND AS SUCH THEY ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR USE AT THE PRACTICAL LEVEL. IN ORDER TO CAPITALISE ON THE EXPERIENCE WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN GAINED IN EXPERIMENTAL SYSTEMS AND TO MOVE INTO THE OPERATIONAL MODE, AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT IS NECESSARY, ESPECIALLY IN PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATION FOR DATA ACQUISITION, DISTRIBUTION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA AS A PART OF A GLOBAL RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM. THE SUGGESTION IS THAT THERE BE HELD A CONFERENCE

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UNDER CCMS AUSPICES TO CONSIDER SOME OF THE MANY PROBLEMS

ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACHIEVEMENT OF OPERATIONAL EARTH
OBSERVATION SYSTEMS. END TEXT.

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